

25 years of making futures bright



BC Family Hearing Resource Society

# Reaching Out

A Newsletter from the BC FAMILY HEARING RESOURCE CENTRE for families with deaf and hard of hearing children throughout BRITISH COLUMBIA.



Fall 2010

## Family Feature

### (Very) Early Intervention – The Key to the Walsh Family’s Spirit



Brian, Caleb, Naomi & Maria Walsh

*The Walsh family lives in Langley They have two beautiful children with a third due in the New Year! Maria shares with us her thoughts on her family’s growing pains through her son, Caleb’s life during and after his diagnosis with a heart disorder and hearing loss. The family speaks both English and Danish at home.*

Before our journey into the world of hearing loss began I thought that people could be “deaf” or “not deaf”. I had no idea that there were varying degrees and types of hearing loss. I can’t believe I was so ignorant before; I had known about vision—you can have vision impairment and not be blind! I didn’t realize it was the same for hearing loss, but of course, it

makes sense to me now. My only knowledge before was that old people wore hearing aids and I knew that my sister-in-law was born deaf. I didn’t know that a child could be born with *some* hearing loss. We were blessed to have a healthy little girl, Naomi, as our first child. She was perfectly healthy, and when embarking on my second pregnancy I naively thought, I was one of the lucky moms who wouldn’t have any problems with my second pregnancy.

Caleb was diagnosed with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome at 21 weeks in utero. At first I went into a depression about the diagnosis and was forever worried. Then at one point I went into complete denial and chose not to think about it anymore; I wanted to enjoy my pregnancy! I hoped that when he was born we would find out that they had been wrong. Unfortunately this was not the case. Simply put, his left ventricle is very small and not really functioning and the aorta is very narrow. Without intervention, these kids die within a few days to maybe two weeks of being born. Survival depends on three open heart surgeries completed over the first 3 to 5 years of their lives. Caleb’s first surgery was at 10 days old and he spent the first 3½ months of his life in ICU both at Stollery Children’s Hospital in Edmonton and at BC Children’s Hospital (BCH) in Vancouver. His second surgery was performed when he was 8 months old and we expect him to have his third

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next summer. His heart will never be a normal four chambered heart. From the very first day of his life he has been on many different types of medications and antibiotics. He has been under general anesthetic and on the heart and lung machine twice.

We don't know exactly how and when Caleb's hearing loss started, whether it was present in utero or as a complication from the different medical procedures, but we were told to keep an eye on it from the start (there is no history of hearing loss on either side of the family). He had his first auditory screening at Guildford Audiology Clinic at about 4 months old and passed it. Even so, it was recommended that we return for more testing as he was growing. None of them provided reliable results until the fall of 2009 when a sedated ABR was done at BCCH. He was then diagnosed with normal hearing at 500 Hz sloping to a moderate-severe to severe sensorineural hearing loss at 2000 and 4000 Hz bilaterally which made him a candidate for amplification in both ears.

I remember thinking, "How in the world can I put hearing aids on a 1 year old?" and "What are they even thinking?" because I had never seen a baby wearing hearing aids before. Cintia Savransky, his audiologist, gently inserted one aid at his first fitting and he literally stopped dead in his tracks as if a whole new world had opened up to him. That was the first time I truly realized he actually needed them. He did not attempt to take them off and hasn't since. He will come to me to adjust them if there is anything wrong with them. I had been very nervous about the whole experience and had prepared myself for yet another uphill battle in my little boy's life but it never came. For us, it has only been a good experience and an easy transition. Don't get me



**Visiting with the firemen at Partners and Playmates**

wrong, I still wish he would not have any need for them at all! The aids are actually so small—they provide such obvious benefit to Caleb that I don't really care about what it looks like anymore. We feel truly lucky that we "caught" everything so early; thanks to the BC Early Hearing Program. Lori Bell from the BCEHP was really great. She helped me through my concerns that Caleb may be teased in school for his hearing aids. Now I think I wasted so much time and needn't have worried so much! Caleb is only 2 years old right now but we are still wondering what school will be like for him and how well he will cope in a loud class room. So far, he is doing excellently and is within normal range for his spoken

language development. He continues to blow us away with what he is able to do every week.

Words cannot express how grateful I am for the Langley Child Development Centre and our IDP Consultants, Sandy Loughran and Torie Rehman. In the beginning it was just really nice to get the support and opportunity on a monthly basis to touch base with a professional in the comfort of our home. As you can imagine, my stress level during Caleb's first year of life was through the roof. We had gotten used to the comfort of being surrounded 24/7 by nurses and doctors in the hospital for the first part of his life so it was a very scary process to transition into life at home alone with Caleb. We had also been given every possible scenario for how he may or may not develop in all kinds of areas. I am so appreciative that the



**Caleb, mom and Naomi at play**

therapists come to our home. It's just one less appointment that we have to drive to. Caleb has had his share of hospital and clinic settings. The appointments are more like playtime for him and he has enjoyed every one of them from day one.

When I look back on my life before Caleb was born I think, "Wow, that seems like a world ago." Through both Caleb's heart condition and his hearing loss, my husband and I have experienced and incredible learning curve.

I remember when Carolyn Hawrish, our Auditory-Verbal Therapist shared with us the “Sound Hearing” recording which approximates what different degrees of hearing loss sound like. It was an eye-opener. To be honest, I found it quite depressing. I wondered, “How can he even function when his hearing is *that* bad?” It helped us to realize we had to take Caleb’s hearing loss more seriously than we had been. We became more conscious that as a family, we would have to put some work into this; “this” being our son’s future. I had originally thought that we would put the hearing aids on and they would “fix” Caleb’s hearing loss. I didn’t realize that it would be more complicated than that.

Through our individual sessions with Carolyn at home and through the Partners and Playmates group, I understand how important it is that we are learning techniques on how to encourage Caleb’s language development. One thing that stands out was when Carolyn encouraged me to cover my mouth during part of our session. I had thought that Caleb would have better access to my communication through lip reading!

I learned that we could train Caleb to use his hearing *first* by learning to listen. Sure, Caleb will still use information from people’s faces to understand what they are communicating but now I can see how we have taught him that he need not *rely* on this as the first key to understanding. The way I look at it is, “how far can we get with conveying our message to Caleb through listening first?” I feel we have benefited the most from the weekly, now bi-weekly, home visits with Carolyn. It just helps us keep life as normal as possible and away from the institutional setting. We take comfort in the BCFHRC being there. We now know we can go there with any concerns we may have with his hearing loss. Once Caleb gets closer to entering Kindergarten, the PEER program teaches kids and parents to advocate for themselves and to educate school staff about hearing loss and what we can do in order for Caleb to get the most out of his education.



One huge issue was my concern about how Caleb’s illness would affect his older sister, Naomi. We wanted Naomi to have as normal a life as possible. It was difficult, as looking after Caleb that first year was a full-time job! My husband, Brian, was charged with taking care of Naomi and he wasn’t able to work for some time; however, we knew it was very important for both of our children to have the opportunity of spending quality time with at least one parent. We read testimonials from older siblings through the cardiology department at BCCH indicating that some siblings had later in life expressed they hadn’t understood why mom and dad spent so much time and energy on their younger sibling instead of them.

It’s great how both Carolyn and Torie involve Naomi in their home visits with us. Both children get very excited when they know either of them is coming over and when they arrive. Naomi is invited to participate in all of our therapy sessions. Although it can sometimes be difficult to focus on Caleb because Naomi is so eager to play too, it has helped us teach both children about turn-taking and sharing.

Lately, we have given Naomi a choice of whether she would like to stay or go swimming with daddy instead. Although she really likes the sessions, she almost always opts to go to the pool, her *very* favourite activity!

Caleb has indeed proven himself to be very capable and neither of his diagnoses has appeared to hold him back. He is larger than life. When he was first diagnosed with his heart defect and his hearing loss I never dared to hope that our lives would be normal—I thought we would have to take very special care with Caleb for his entire life. Now we are getting on with life, we know he is hard of hearing, but really think of Caleb as being quite a typical 2 ½ year old. I’m thrilled to see how he will take on his new role soon as big brother.



## Special Feature

### ICED Study Tour Visits BC Family Hearing Resource Society and the BC School for the Deaf



ICED Representatives and BCFHRC Staff gather for a Group Photo

On July 16<sup>th</sup> 2010 BC Family Hearing Resource Centre Staff led by Judy Chrastina, teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing, welcomed educators of the deaf from around the world to visit the Centre, observe individual sessions, and to hear from staff and parents about our work with children who are deaf and hard of hearing and their families. Twenty-three representatives from 15 developing countries within Central and South America, Africa, Indonesia, Asia and the Middle East were in the Vancouver area to participate in the International Congress of Educators of the Deaf (ICED), a week-long event of collaboration and professional development which took place from July 17<sup>th</sup> through to July 24<sup>th</sup> at The Westin Bayshore in downtown Vancouver. The joint visit to BCFHRC and to the BC School for the Deaf (BCSD) was an extended program offering and was the first time participants had the opportunity to visit a working program while in an ICED host country. These professionals were interested in finding out more about how to develop programs within their own countries by observing models of best practice here in BC. The groups' trip was made possible by support from Christian Blind Mission (CBM), Kentalis International and the Enabling Education Network.



Participants went on to spend the afternoon at the Victory Hill Residential Program, where they attended information sessions on a wide range of services offered by the Provincial Outreach Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, including those of the residential program itself, BCSD, the Deaf Access Office and, the Youth Transition Program.

Overall, our international colleagues were particularly impacted by the services provided to families locally, through outreach visits and distance learning, as well as the active role that Deaf adults play in education, and support services. As a result of three meetings during the ICED congress later that week, a steering committee was formed. Over 100 participants signed up to create an International Association of Educators of the Deaf with the intent to continue to network and support each other internationally by developing a web-site for shared information and to raise funds to support attendance at future ICED congresses for delegates from developing countries. BCFHRC and the BCSD were honoured and proud to be able to participate in the events and were reminded of how much we do with the amazing resources that we are privileged to enjoy.



## Five Minute Literacy Activity

### Learning About and Sequencing Time by Judy Chrastina, Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Keeping a ‘social’ calendar at home with your child can provide you and your child with opportunities for reinforcing and teaching a variety of skills;

- Spending time with your child making plans helps your child feel included and encourages a sense of anticipation
- Sequencing events about to happen or those that have already happened can help to provide a sense of order. Keeping track of special events, fieldtrips, birthdays and holidays can help your child put his/her world into perspective. For example, “*Only two more sleeps until you go to Sarah’s house or, only 6 weeks until Christmas*”
- Past, future and present tense verbs can be reinforced as you look back to the past and ahead to the future. For example, “*Yesterday we went swimming and in two weeks will go swimming again*”
- Promoting early math skills by counting the days in a week or month
- Reviewing the names of the months and sorting them into seasons

A “scrapbook”, “home book” or “experience book” is another helpful tool as well as a kind of personal diary where your child can collect and save mementos. For example,

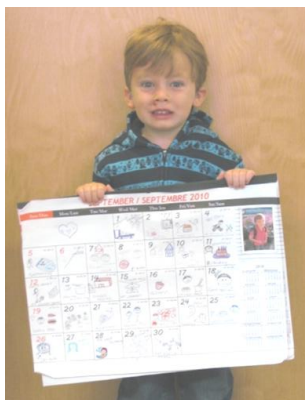
- Cut an outing and paste it in the scrapbook. Your child will have something to show and talk about with his/her relatives

Writing or drawing on the calendar daily creates an archive of sorts that can be kept to later appreciate the first years of your child’s young life.

## Parent’s Piece

### How Using a Calendar Helps My Family

by Karen Jackson



Cory with his Calendar

We have a calendar system that we use for our son to help him understand what is happening (events, school, and appointments). It’s a great way for me to prepare him for upcoming events and to include him in the making of plans.

We draw a picture for each day and talk about, “What did we do yesterday?” and “Remember that?” He knows that PALS happens on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This week he has been anticipating the swimming field trip. Cory is very excited and he keeps saying, “Tuesday we go swimming!”

In fact, an unexpected advantage of the calendar has been when my daughter, Carrie Anne teases Cory. She pulls out the old “sibling rivalry” and tries to wind him up. She recently tricked Cory and told him that swimming was on the wrong day. Having the calendar really helped me to manage his dismay when I had to explain that no, his sister was wrong and that swimming *would* be on Tuesday and not “today”. Although it sometimes feels like work, it saves us a lot of tantrums in the end, as Cory is able to understand what is ahead. Now if I could only get Carrie Anne to stop pulling her pranks!



## 25 Years of Making a Difference

### In Appreciation of our Supporters

Since our last issue, the following individuals and organizations have continued to make a difference in the lives of our children and their families by generously donating to our centre either monetarily or through goods and services.



# Elks & Royal Purple Fund for Children \$120,000 annually!

#### Elks

- Delta



#### Royal Purple

- Aldergrove
- North Surrey
- Smithers
- Victoria

#### Individuals & Organizations

- Andrea Sharpe
- Andrew Pressburger
- Art & Gladys Pelkey-Currie
- Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists
- Graeme Bull
- The Grange Family
- The Gribble Family
- The Jackson Family
- James & Sally Hurst
- Jessie Ellis
- Joan Ford Charitable Society
- Joe Taylor
- Kim Houlihan
- The Lacey Family
- Norma Le Francois
- Open Purse Foundation
- The Peterson Family
- The Taylor Family



### Annual General Meeting 2010

Please join us on December 1, 2010 at 6:30 pm for our annual general meeting.

This is a wonderful opportunity to hear about the Centre's achievements over the past year as we work towards achieving our vision.

Dr. Noreen Simmons, Executive Director will be presenting on the progress and development of our programs and services over the past year.

We will be honoring our Board President Sally Hurst, for her leadership and commitment to the organization over the past three years.

We will also take the opportunity to welcome our new Board President Dr. Graham Bryce who has been involved with our centre for 20 years! Our 2010 Annual Report will be available along with our audited statements. As in past years, we will also recognize and celebrate our wonderful donors and volunteers through our 'Light up the Centre' program. The presentations will be followed by social time and refreshments. Free childcare will be provided.



## Reaching Out to Community Service Providers

### Partnerships with Preschools in Chilliwack

On September 25<sup>th</sup> BCFHRC staff, Carolyn Hawrish, Auditory-Verbal Therapist and Alexandra Lay, Speech-Language Pathologist, made a road trip to Chilliwack to deliver three modules of the *Partnerships Project in Supporting Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing*.

The purpose of this project is to assist community child care programs to include deaf and hard of hearing children appropriately and to assist community service providers working with parents of infants and toddlers who are deaf or hard of hearing in their natural environments. The course as a whole focuses on the unique communication challenges facing each child with a hearing loss and the resulting effects on social interactions, social/emotional development, and learning.



*Partnerships Project*

Saturday's workshop comprised three of the five modules:

- *Getting to Know the Child who is Deaf or Hard of Hearing* covered how we hear and the different types and degrees of hearing loss.
- *Assistive Listening Devices* provided information on how to use, maintain and troubleshoot hearing aids and FM systems and their benefits in a preschool setting.
- *Making the Childcare Environment Accessible and Facilitating Communication* was all about techniques and strategies to help children communicate with their peers and get the most out of their learning environment.

It was a day of hands-on learning and a great chance to form partnerships with Early Childhood Educators in Chilliwack. Below is some of the feedback we received from participants:

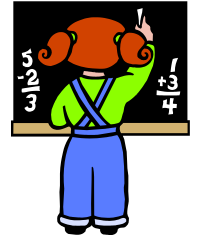
- *"[There were] lots of "aha" moments as I connected the dots to past-life experiences"*
- *" knowing how to check if equipment is working properly [was most relevant and useful]"*
- *I learned how to adapt circle time for hard of hearing children*
- *"It was a great reminder of how and why we do things...getting closer, NOT louder!"*

The Partnerships Project is funded by the Ministry of Health. If you would like more information on the Partnerships Project for children with a hearing loss you can contact our centre, or visit their website at [www.partnershipsproject.org](http://www.partnershipsproject.org) to read about other Partnerships modules available.

## Reaching Out to Community

### Early Childhood Educator Language & Sign Workshop

On October 20<sup>th</sup> 2010 BC Family Hearing Resource Centre staff, Suzie Fairweather & Zara Newnham offered a course for early childhood educators on:



- What hearing loss is like
- How a hearing aid and FM can help
- How to handle hearing aids with confidence
- How to make every interaction count
- Signs for everyday activities
- Signed Songs

If you missed out on this opportunity, watch for information about another workshop in February 2011!

### Sign Language Course

We offered a Sign Language Level 1 Class this fall. These classes are an introduction to sign language, designed for parents and adult relatives of birth to 5 year old deaf and hard of hearing children. Siblings 12 years and older are also welcome. Community service providers and support workers of deaf and hard of hearing children who are receiving services from our Centre, are encouraged to attend as well. Classes are led by Suzie Fairweather, a Sign Language Consultant at BCFHRC, who is deaf and fluent in sign language. **This session is full. If you are interested in a course like this, please contact our Centre.**

### Tyke Talk

BCFHRC and the Surrey Early Speech and Language Program (SESLP) collaborated to provide *Tyke Talk-A Parent Workshop*. Over the span of 4 evenings in October, parents were provided with tools to help their children learn language by choosing appropriate goals, learning strategies for language stimulation and listening skills during daily routines. We look forward to more joint workshops with SESLP in the future.

### Satisfaction Surveys

*We want to thank everyone who took the time to complete the surveys. We greatly value your input. From your responses, future planning decisions are made. Although a formal survey is done every year, we encourage your feedback at any time throughout the year, whether favourable or not.*

Here is a selection of positive comments we received:

*“Every time I visit I feel like I'm entering my family's house.”*

*“We have had a wonderful experience with the BCFHRC staff at the hearing clinic in Prince George.”*

*“I feel like we are partners working together to help my child”*

*“I feel that I cannot be effective without close interaction and communication with Early Intervention for the children on my case load. It's a team effort after all!”*

Over 90% of parents agreed that they felt included in their child's services and more confident in helping their child with communication abilities. We were also given suggestions to consider. For instance, one family commented,

*“Our service was intermittent due to holidays (ours & theirs), staff changes and possibly our location (Chilliwack).”*

Local and Outreach families indicated that a Facebook Fan Page was not of particular importance to them. While there was high praise from parents involved in the Surrey Early Speech and Language Program for services received, many were displeased with the long waiting list. We appreciate your responses as ALL feedback is beneficial and we strive to improve and maintain services where necessary.

## Bits & Pieces

### Staff Changes



Alexandra Lay

We are pleased to welcome Alex to the BC Family Hearing Resource Centre. Alex will be working with us Mondays to Wednesdays. Alex has been with the BC Family Hearing Resource Society for 3 years in the capacity of Speech-Language Pathologist with the Surrey Early Speech and Language Program (SESLP). She will continue wearing her SESLP hat on Thursdays and Fridays. Born and raised in the Surrey area, Alex completed her undergraduate studies at UBC and her graduate studies at the University of Alberta. We are very fortunate to have her on board with our program as well as the SESLP Program.



Charmaine Francis

We are pleased to welcome Charmaine to the BC Family Hearing Resource Centre Team! Charmaine is a recent graduate of the Speech-Language Pathology program at UBC. You may have seen her earlier this year when she completed a student practicum at our Centre. Now a full-fledged Speech-Language Pathologist, Charmaine is excited about beginning her career with us! Originally from Victoria, Charmaine completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Victoria. Before moving to Vancouver to begin her graduate studies, Charmaine spent a summer in Namibia working with deaf and hard of hearing children. Charmaine is also a happy newlywed, recently married in September 2010.



We are sad to say goodbye to one of our staff members. Sydelle Murphy, Speech Language Pathologist, has taken a position with the BC School for the Deaf. We wish Sydelle well in her new career path and look forward to maintaining contact with her as children from our program transition to Kindergarten and beyond!

### CARF 2010



BC Family Hearing Resource Society is pursuing its third accreditation through the Council of Accredited Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). The agency is measured on international standards in a number of key areas. The survey dates are December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. The process will allow an external review of our performance and include interviews with families, volunteers, staff, community service professionals, Board of Directors and funders. BC Family Hearing Resource Society is committed to quality improvement; we encourage your feedback at any time. For more information, please contact Dr. Noreen Simmons, Executive Director.

### Newsletter - Mail, On-Line or Email?

Would you prefer to receive our newsletter emailed to you? Are you aware that our newsletters are posted on our website? In our efforts to "Go Green" we are offering the electronic distribution option to those interested.

To receive your newsletter this way, simply email [info@bcfamilyhearing.com](mailto:info@bcfamilyhearing.com) with the email address you would like the newsletter sent to AND the current name and address it is being sent to by mail in order to have your name removed from the list.

## Bits & Pieces

### Mingle & Play 2010

We had a very successful Mingle and Play this year. We opened our back yard garden to 37 families from across the province and the lower mainland, a significant increase from last year when 20 families attended. Approximately 285 people participated in the 4 day program and on one day alone 90 people attended!

BCFHRC Staff members Carolyn Hawrish and Judy Chrastina coordinated the program while Cathy Luther and Suzie Fairweather focused on catching up with families. This year we were very lucky to have ten dedicated volunteers assisting with various duties.

The weather was perfect throughout the 4 days and so were the special acts. Mike the Critter man shared his exotic pets with the group. Ronald MacDonald performed some nifty magic tricks.



Marla wowed the crowd with her guitar; and Carolyn, Judy, Dyan and Stephanie acted out the Three Bears and the Three Goats when the Clown we had booked did not arrive. We had exciting arts and crafts activities for the children and we ended each day with a calming-down story in the cool of the classroom.

Following are some of the appreciative comments from parent participants:

- *[Our favourite part was...]connecting with the families from the other groups. **We see each other in passing but it's nice to visit informally***
- *[I was thankful for...]all the volunteers*
- *[I appreciated...]the chance to see lots of the other children with hearing aids/implants*
- *[It was helpful] having staff & volunteers around to watch and play with the kids on occasion (thanks!)*
- *Everyone made awesome efforts to sing with Tasha and to make sure she had access – thank you!*
- *[It was great to]talk to other parents with more than just hearing loss. Some with any form of disability*



**We look forward to Mingle and Play 2011!**

## Seasonal Signs



**autumn/fall**



**tree**



**leaf**



**wind**



**rain**



**mud**



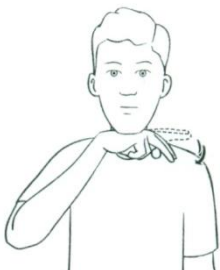
**orange**



**pumpkin**



**pie**



**turkey**



**soup**



**full**



## Calendar



Oct	15 & 16	<b>BC Association of Speech-Language Pathologists &amp; Audiologists Annual Conference.</b>
	20	<b>BCFHRC ECE Language &amp; Sign Workshop</b>
	22	<b>Canadian Association of Educators of Deaf &amp; Hard of Hearing Annual Conference</b>
	28	<b>BCFHRC PEER Group Session 1</b>
	31	<b>Happy Halloween!</b>
Nov	11	<b>Remembrance Day Holiday</b>
	18	<b>BCFHRC PEER Group Session 2</b>
	22-24	<b>BC Early Hearing Program Workshop</b>
	25 & 26	<b>BCFHRC Cochlear Implant Habilitation Workshop</b>
Dec	1	<b>BCFHRS Annual General Meeting 2010</b>
	9 & 10	<b>CARF Accreditation Process</b>
	16	<b>BCFHRC PEER Group Session 3</b>
	20	<b>Christmas Party for Families</b>
	25	<b>Merry Christmas!</b>
	27 & 28	<b>Centre Closed in lieu of Christmas &amp; Boxing Day</b>

### Reaching Out

Newsletter published quarterly by

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Editors: Cindy Adams & Carolyn  
(Trengrove) Hawrish

We are a family-centered early intervention Provincial Resource Program committed to individual communication choices. We provide support and resources throughout BC to deaf and hard of hearing children, their families and Community Service Providers.

The purpose of the Reaching Out Newsletter is to provide information and support to our readers.

Reference to any specific commercial products, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the BC Family Hearing Resource Society.

Articles and ideas are welcome! The opinions expressed therefore are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Board of Directors, or the staff. We reserve the right to edit contributions for brevity and clarity.

There is no fee for the Reaching Out newsletter, however, donations are gratefully accepted.

Sign Language from the Canadian Dictionary of ASL, Carol Sue Bailey & Kathy Dolby, Editors. Used with Permission from the University of Alberta Press.

## Our Recent Outreach Consultants' visits to Communities Throughout BC

July	<b>Noreen Simmons - Golden, Nelson Zara Newnham - Kamloops Dyan Spear - Ft. St. John</b>
Sep	<b>Judy Chrastina - Bella Coola Zara Newnham - Prince George Dyan Spear – Victoria, Nanaimo, Kelowna, Vernon</b>
Oct	<b>Dyan Spear - Port Alberni, Ladysmith, Penticton, Ft. St. John, Hudson Hope Carolyn Hawrish – Kamloops Zara Newnham - Golden</b>
Nov	<b>Judy Chrastina, Williams Lake</b>

## Conference Presentations

July **Noreen Simmons** presented at ICED research findings from a study exploring '*differences in beliefs and practices of mothers' of preschoolers with hearing loss/Deafness*

**Noreen Simmons** with Brenda Poon presented at ICED on the *Historical hearing loss registry project: How are data about children's hearing status and their developmental outcomes being captured in BC?*